

Message Text

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43

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8956

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 7508

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS COMMERCE BEWT FOR BOWDEN

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, UR

SUBJ: HEALTH OF SOVIET FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER PATOLICHEV

1. FRENCH EMBASSY MOSCOW OFFICER TELLS US THAT HIS EMBASSY RECENTLY ADVISED BY SOVIETS THAT FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER NIKOLIA PATOLICHEV, WHO HAS BEEN HOSPITALIZED FOR SEVERAL MONTHS FOLLOWING HEART ATTACK, IS NOW EXPECTED TO RETIRE. PATOLICHEV REPORTEDLY SUFFERED A RELAPSE WITHIN PAST TEN DAYS. FRENCH EXPECT NEW FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER TO BE APPOINTED FOLLOWING SUPREME SOVIET ELECTIONS ON JUNE 16. WHETHER FIRST DEPUTY FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER MIKHAIL R. KUZMIN WILL BE APPOINTED IS NOT CERTAIN.

2. SOME CONFIRMATION OF THIS REPORT MAY BE AVAILABLE FROM SOVIET DELEGATION DURING CURRENT MEETING OF US-USSR ECONOMIC COMMISSION IN WASHINGTON.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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